

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

APRIL 14, 2004 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GLADSTONE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO COUNTERFEITING

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Gladstone, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to aiding and abetting others in manufacturing counterfeit money.

Shannon M. Rudder, 25, of Gladstone, waived his right to indictment and pleaded guilty before U.S. District Chief Judge Dean Whipple this afternoon to a federal information that charges him with aiding and abetting others in making counterfeit currency with intent to defraud between Feb. 10 and 12, 2004.

Rudder, who was originally charged in a federal criminal complaint filed on Feb. 13, 2004, admitted that he met with others at a hotel room in Independence, Mo., between Feb. 10 and 12, 2004. A Hewlett-Packard combination scanner/printer was in the hotel room, Graves said, and was used to scan genuine \$20 bills then print counterfeits. **Rudder** admitted that he operated the scanner/printer and passed some of the counterfeit currency at a Wal-Mart store in Richmond, Mo.

Under federal statutes, **Rudder** could be subject to a sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. His sentence will be determined according to the United States Sentencing Guidelines. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John E. Cowles. It was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service, the Richmond, Mo., Police Department and the Independence, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow